

## Message Text

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ACTION INR-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-10 EUR-12 NEA-10 IO-13 ISO-00  
INRE-00 SSM-03 CIAE-00 SES-02 SAA-01 SS-15 SSO-00  
NSCE-00 DODE-00 /087 W  
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O 251147Z AUG 78  
FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5101  
INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI  
AMEMBASSY ALGIERS  
USINT BAGHDAD  
AMEMBASSY BRASILIA  
AMEMBASSY CAIRO  
AMEMBASSY DOHA  
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM  
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY MADRID  
AMEMBASSY MANAMA  
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
AMEMBASSY MUSCAT  
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA  
AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMEMBASSY RABAT  
AMEMBASSY SANA  
USMISSION SINAI  
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN  
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI  
AMEMBASSY TUNIS  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK  
TREASURY WASHDC

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E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PINR, PINT, IS  
SUBJECT: BEGIN AND HERUT

REF: STATE 214570

1. WE BELIEVE ANALYSIS IN INTSUM 634 OF BEGIN'S RELATION-

SHIP WITH HERUT UNDERSTATES THE CONTROL BEGIN EXERCISES OVER HIS PARTY AND ERRONEOUSLY MINIMIZES THE LOYALTY OF HERUT RANK-AND-FILEERS TO BEGIN, THE MAN. AT THE SAME TIME, THE ANALYSIS EXAGGERATES HERUT'S POTENTIAL FOR RESISTING ANY CONCESSIONS BEGIN MAY ACCEPT.

2. WHILE HERUT HAS SMALL MINORITY OF EXTREME HARD-LINERS WHO DO NOT FLINCH FROM OPPOSING THE CONCESSIONS BEGIN HAS ALREADY INCORPORATED IN HIS PEACE PLAN, THE GREAT BULK OF HERUT IS RECONCILED TO THEM. ALTHOUGH THE TOLERANCE OF THIS MAJORITY FOR FURTHER CONCESSIONS ON, SAY, THE WEST BANK IS NOT LIMITLESS, WE BELIEVE BEGIN COULD GO CONSIDERABLY FURTHER THAN HIS PRESENT POSITION WITHOUT SIGNIFICANT ALIENATION OF HIS SUPPORT IN HERUT. MUCH LESS WOULD HE, BY SO DOING, "DESTROY" THE PARTY. (PARA 3 REFTEL).

3. THE MORE IMPORTANT CONSTRAINT ON BEGIN IS HIS OWN IDEOLOGICAL MIND-SET. THE CLOSE VOTE IN THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEETING LAST JANUARY (PARA 2 REFTEL) DID NOT SO MUCH MARK LIMITS OF FUTURE CONCESSIONS BY BEGIN AS IT INDICATED HOW FAR HE HAD STRAYED FROM HERUT DOGMA. BEGIN PROBABLY EMPATHIZES TO SOME DEGREE WITH THE PROTESTS OF HIS RIGHTIST OPPOSITION WITHIN HERUT AND MAY HEAR HIS OWN WORDS OF AN EARLIER DAY WHEN HE LISTENS TO ZEOLOTS LIKE GEULA COHEN. BUT HE IS NO LONGER ON THE OUTSIDE. HE IS NOW PRIME MINISTER, AND THE LEADER OF THE NATION. WERE HE TO  
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MAKE THE AGONIZING DECISIONS FOR GREATER MODERATION, HE HAS SUFFICIENT AUTHORITY IN HERUT TO BRING THE PARTY ALONG WITH A MINIMUM OF FUSS.

4. WHAT IS TRUE FOR HIS PARTY IS CERTAINLY THE CASE WITH HIS MASS CONSTITUENCY AMONG SEPHARDIC JEWS. STRONGER THAN THEIR SUSCRIPTION TO HERUT'S HARD LINE IS THEIR DEVOTION TO BEGIN AS THEIR CHARISMATIC LEADER.

5. IN SUM, IF HE CAN OVERCOME HIS OWN PRECONCEPTIONS, BEGIN COULD SELL CONCESSIONS TO HIS SUPPORTERS AS THE INESCAPABLE PRICE FOR REAL PEACE. LEWIS

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRIME MINISTER, LEGISLATIVE RELATIONS  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 25 aug 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Executive Order:** GS  
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**SAS ID:** 1614568  
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**Subject:** BEGIN AND HERUT  
**TAGS:** PINR, PINT, IS  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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